

[7 May, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

**Power shortage in Delhi**

3439. MS SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi may have to face serious problem of load shedding this year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken to overcome the problem of load shedding?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) According to Govt. of NCT of Delhi it is anticipated that Delhi may not face any serious problem of load shedding this year. This would, however, primarily depend on the ambient temperature and intensity of monsoon as well as unforeseen circumstances like forced outages of generating units and grid constraints.

(c) Electricity being a concurrent subject, the supply and distribution of electricity in a state is in purview of the concerned State Government/ State Power Utilities. Government of India only supplements the efforts of the State Government. Periodical assessment of demand and supply in Delhi is being made by Delhi Government and Ministry of Power. To bridge the gap between anticipated demand and supply in the state, share from unallocated pool of Central Sector Generating Stations in Northern Region is reviewed from time to time on the basis of relative shortages of beneficiary States/UTs. Arrangements have been made by Power Utilities of Delhi to arrange power from other States through bilateral agreements/power trading; companies. Besides this, un-requisitioned surplus capacity of other States in Gas based power plants on liquid fuel is also envisaged to be requisitioned by Delhi.

**Thermal Power Project at Mauda**

†3440. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Thermal Power Corporation has sanctioned the setting up of a mega power generation project at Mauda in Vidarbha region in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, by when the work will commence on this project;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c)' by when this project will be completed; and \*

(d) the quantum of power the Vidarbha region would get from the said project?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) NTPC Ltd. proposes to set up Mauda Thermal Power Project (2x500 MW) at Mauda in Nagpur district of Maharashtra. Site specific studies and investigations have been completed. Feasibility Report for the project has been finalized and the same has been approved by the Project Subcommittee of NTPC Board on 30th January, 2007. Action has been initiated by NTPC Ltd. for obtaining necessary clearances including clearances from State Pollution Control Board and for acquisition of land. Subject to timely clearances, the project is envisaged to be commissioned during XI Plan period.

(d) Mauda is envisaged as a regional station for the benefit of States/ UTs located in the Western Region. Power from this project shall be supplied to all the beneficiaries in line with the prevailing guidelines including 10% additional share to Maharashtra, being the home State. Further distribution of power to Vidarbha or other regions of Maharashtra will be decided by the State.

#### **Power position in the country**

3441. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that electricity cuts last for three to seven hours per day in many parts of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that private distribution has not improved the situation; and

(d) what action Government contemplate to take for bringing radical improvement in the power situation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) There is overall shortage of power in the country. The shortages vary from State to State and season to season, as well as times of day